

Application No.: 09/030394

Case No.: 51362US010

*In the Claims:*

Please amend claims 1, 22, and 25.

1. A respirator that comprises:

(a) a face piece that is sized to fit at least over the nose and mouth of a person;(b) a cartridge receiving structure that is located on the face piece; and

(c) a filter cartridge that has a housing into which a filter element is contained, the filter cartridge capable of being manually snapped into engagement with the cartridge receiving structure to produce an audible noise, the engagement being instantaneously obtainable by pressing the filter cartridge against the receiving structure without rotational movement of the filter cartridge relative to the receiving structure, the filter cartridge further being capable of being readily separated from the cartridge receiving structure by pulling manually thereon without additional manual manipulation.

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~~E2~~ 22. A filter cartridge useful for filtering contaminants that are inhaled through a respirator worn by a person and for permitting instantaneous attachment and removal from a cartridge receiving structure on a face piece of the respirator, the filter cartridge comprising a housing and a filter element, the filter element residing in the housing and the housing including a means for allowing the filter cartridge to be manually and audibly snapped into engagement with a cartridge receiving structure by pressing the filter cartridge against a cartridge receiving structure on a face piece without using rotation movement of the cartridge relative to the receiving structure and for readily separating the filter cartridge from the cartridge receiving structure by pulling manually thereon without additional manual manipulation.

~~E3~~ 25. A respirator that comprises:

- (a) a face piece that is sized to fit at least over the nose and mouth of a person;
- (b) a cartridge receiving structure that is located on the face piece;
- (c) a filter cartridge that includes a housing and a filter element, the filter element being contained in the housing; and
- (d) means for manually snapping the filter cartridge into instantaneous engagement with the cartridge receiving structure to produce an audible noise by pressing the filter cartridge against the receiving structure without rotational movement of the cartridge relative to the receiving structure and for readily separating the filter cartridge from the cartridge structure by pulling manually thereon without additional manual manipulation.